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SITUATION REPORTS

POLAND

An influential member of the party Central Committee, [REDACTED] presented a somber picture of intraparty disarray and made it clear that the party leadership feels under considerable pressure to stem this disarray by the end of January. [REDACTED]

The party member said that younger party members are pressing for institutional changes within the party that would provide guarantees of greater democracy and protection against the mistakes and abuses of the Gierk era. There is considerable resistance, especially among party veterans, to going too far in making such changes, and this issue is likely to head the agenda of tomorrow's meeting of the party commission preparing for the special party congress slated for early spring. [REDACTED]

The party leadership may be seriously divided. The Central Committee member implied that he favors more wide-reaching changes. An unconfirmed report says that new Politburo member Moczar favors the division of top party responsibilities between a secretary general who commands the party secretariat and a chairman of the Politburo, and believes that both men should serve four-year terms. [REDACTED]

Party leader Kania has publicly advocated some changes in the party statutes but has carefully avoided supporting any specific proposals. His treatment of the issue has left the impression that he does not favor significant changes, perhaps because he realizes that the Soviets would not look favorably on radical changes. [REDACTED]

Kania Discusses Moscow Summit

Kania yesterday explicitly spelled out some of his allies' concerns about the situation in Poland in an apparent effort to indicate to the Poles some of the limits of acceptable behavior. Speaking to a local party meeting, Kania revealed some of the "great concerns" expressed at the Moscow summit on 5 December. [REDACTED]

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He said that Warsaw's allies criticized "numerous hostile actions" at rallies and in leaflets directed against Poland's alliances, strikes undertaken for political reasons, and strikes that threatened to paralyze the lines of communications across Poland. Although Kania's remarks clearly do not exhaust the list of activities that the Soviets would consider intolerable, they do represent the first explicit public indications by a Polish leader of some recent events in Poland that have disturbed Moscow. (C)

Military Situation

[REDACTED] no indications yesterday that the Soviets are changing the readiness of their forces around Poland.
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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